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North Hollywood Man Charged with Stabbing Dog

A 29-year-old man has been charged with stabbing a dog that walked in his direction outside a North Hollywood apartment building, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Elan Carr said Elmer Realegeno (dob 3/30/88) was charged yesterday with one felony count each of cruelty to an animal and criminal threats.

Case LA087019 includes an allegation that Realegeno personally used a knife as a deadly and dangerous weapon.

The defendant pleaded not guilty yesterday to the charges and is scheduled to return on Nov. 1 in Department 112 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Van Nuys Branch.

Realegeno is charged with threatening the life of a neighbor on Oct. 14, the prosecutor said. As police arrived on the scene to investigate the criminal threats, the defendant allegedly stabbed another neighbor's dog as it walked in his direction, the prosecutor added.

The 8-year-old Pomeranian underwent surgery and survived the injuries.

If convicted as charged, Realegeno faces a possible maximum sentence of more than four years in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.